

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently amended) A container for printing material in accordance with ~~claim 2~~claim 4, wherein discharge of the piezoelectric element subsequent to charge of the piezoelectric element in said driving circuit causes a resonance, and
said detector module detects the ~~status~~property of the printing material according to a frequency of the resonance.

4. (Currently amended) A container for printing material ~~in accordance with claim 2~~, ~~said container further comprising~~, which holds a printing material therein and is mounted on a printing device, said container comprising:

a detector module that senses energy released from a discharge of a piezoelectric element to detect a property of the printing material;

a driving circuit that drives said detector module, said driving circuit comprising; a discharge circuit that has a first impedance and discharges the detection element to release electrical energy accumulated in the detection element, and a supply circuit that has a second impedance that is higher than the first impedance and supplies electrical energy to the detection element; and

a power supply unit to drive said detector module, where an electric power ~~suppliable per unit time by~~output of said power supply unit is ~~smaller~~less than an electric

power ~~dischargeable from~~ output of the piezoelectric element ~~per unit time by~~ through said discharge circuit.

5. (Currently amended) A container for printing material in accordance with claim 4, said container further comprising a receiver module that receives an externally input radio wave,

wherein said power supply unit comprises:

an electric power generator that generates an electric power from the radio wave received by said receiver module; and

an electric power supplier that supplies the generated electric power ~~as a power source of~~ to said driving circuit.

6. (Original) A container for printing material in accordance with claim 5, wherein said receiver module is provided as part of a communication module that transmits data including information on the detected status of the printing material to and from said printing device.

7. (Original) A container for printing material in accordance with claim 4, wherein said power supply unit is a battery set in said container.

8. (Original) A container for printing material in accordance with claim 4, wherein said driving circuit comprises a booster circuit that boosts a voltage of the supplied power source and uses the boosted voltage as a power source of said supply circuit.

9. (Currently amended) A container for printing material in accordance with ~~claim 1~~claim 4, wherein the detected status of the printing material is a remaining quantity of the printing material.

10. (Currently amended) A container for printing material in accordance with claim 1, wherein the detected status of the printing material is one of temperature, humidity, density, mass, viscosity, and pressure of ~~he~~the printing material.

11. (Currently amended) A container for printing material, which holds a printing material therein and is mounted on a printing device, said container comprising:

a detector module that ~~utilizes a phenomenon induced by release of energy in discharge of a detection~~senses energy released from a discharge of a piezoelectric element to detect a ~~status~~property of the printing material; and

a driving circuit that ~~functions to drive~~drives said detector module, said driving circuit comprising: a charge circuit that charge said detection element, and a discharge circuit that discharges an electric energy accumulated in the detection element, wherein a charging period by said charge circuit is longer than a discharging period by said discharge circuit, and

wherein an electric power output of said charge circuit is smaller than an electric power output of said discharge circuit.

12. (Currently amended) A detector for printing material, which uses a detection element provided in a container for holding a printing material to detect a ~~status~~property of the printing material, said detector comprising:

a supply circuit that has a preset impedance and supplies electrical energy to the detection element;

a discharge circuit that has a lower impedance than the impedance of said supply circuit and discharges the detection element to release electrical energy accumulated in the detection element; and

a detector module that ~~utilizes a phenomenon induced by release of energy in discharge of the detection~~ senses energy released from a discharge of a piezoelectric element to detect the ~~status~~property of the printing material,

wherein an electric power output of said supply circuit is smaller than an electric power output of said discharge circuit.

13. (Currently amended) A method of detecting a ~~status~~property of a printing material with a detection element provided in a container for holding the printing material, said method comprising the steps of:

supplying electrical energy to the detection element via a supply circuit, which has a preset impedance;

discharging the detection element to release electrical energy accumulated in the detection element via a discharge circuit, which has a lower impedance than the impedance of said supply circuit; and

~~utilizing a phenomenon induced by release of energy in discharge of the detection~~ sensing energy released from a discharge of a piezoelectric element to detect the ~~status~~property of the printing material,

wherein an electric power output of said supply circuit is smaller than an electric power output of said discharge circuit.